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## PATENT APPLICATION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 5, 2002.

Deborah A. Peacock, Reg. No. 31,649  
Jeffrey D. Myers, Reg. No. 35,964

April 5, 2002  
(Date)

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: A. Burl Donaldson  
Serial No. 10/043,006  
Filed: January 8, 2002  
For: WETSTACKING AVOIDANCE IN INTERNAL  
COMBUSTION ENGINES

### FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**Box: MISSING PARTS**  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

#### In the Specification:

On page 3, delete the first full paragraph and insert the following:

~~In order to avoid failures from either type of wetstacking, the conventional advice is that~~  
the engine should never be operated for extended periods of time at less than half-load. In order to assure that the engine operates at a load of at least 50%, artificial loads are sometimes applied. For electric generators, a resistive heater can be used for load, and the resulting heat dissipated either to air directly, or through the engine radiator. The shortcoming of this approach is that both fuel consumption and wear on the engine may be unnecessarily increased. An